

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELGRA 08564 031043Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /011 W

-----046645 031047Z /10

O 031109Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3890

UNCLAS BELGRADE 8564

FOR AF/EX SALAZAR ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: THE WAKE

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS FOR DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY READ FROM
AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER.

2. I HAD HOPED TO BE IN WASHINGTON FOR THE WAKE THIS EVENING,
BUT THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE. CONSEQUENTLY, THIS MESSAGE WILL
HAVE TO SERVE AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR MY PRESENCE--ALTHOUGH
NOTHING CAN TRULY DO THAT.

3. I SAY WAKE BECAUSE I KNOW HOW GREAT IS YOUR LOSS. WHILE
I WOULD NEVER BE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO CLAIM THAT THE DEPARTMENT
OF STATE (AT LEAST SINCE LAST JANUARY 20) IS EFFICIENT,
MRS. LEATHERMAN'S DEPARTURE FROM M CONSTITUTES A GRAVE THREAT
TO NATIONAL SECURITY (OR AT LEAST THAT SMALL PART OF IT OVER
WHICH THE DEPARTMENT HAS ANY INFLUENCE). IMAGINE IF YOU CAN
HINDENBURG WITHOUT LUDENDORF, TRUMAN WITH ACHESON, OR MUTT
WITHOUT JEFF, AND YOU WILL HAVE A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF
STATE WITHOUT MILLIE.

4. BUT THERE IS A BRIGHTER SIDE. WHILE THE POSITION OF DEPUTY
UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT WAS, FOR A SHORT TIME, PREEMINENTLY
VITAL IN THE GLOBAL SCHEME OF THINGS, IT HAS NOW RETURNED TO ITS
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 08564 031043Z

IMPORTANT--BUT NOT CRITICAL--ROLE IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS.
AND SO IT IS TIME, GIVEN MRS. LEATHERMAN'S GREAT AND GOOD
QUALITIES, THAT SHE MOVE ON TO BETTER THINGS. TO DO OTHERWISE
WOULD BE TO ADMIT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS INCAPABLE OF
MAKING THE BEST USE OF ITS RESOURCES--AND WE ALL KNOW HOW FAR
THAT WOULD BE FROM THE TRUTH.

5. AND SO BEN, I OFFER YOU BOTH SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES. BUT
ONLY A LITTLE BIT, FOR YOUR LOSS IS MY GAIN.
EAGLEBURGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELGRA08564
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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